

REMARKS

Claims 26-40 and 53-61 are pending in this application. Claims 62-94 are new. Entry of claims 62-94 is requested. Support for the polyester polymer particles obtained from underwater pelletizers as set forth in claim 83, can be found on page 19, line 10. Support for the polyester polymer particle being in the shape of spheres can be found on page 7, line 15. Support for adding a phosphorus containing compound to a finishing zone as in claim 93, can be found on page 16, lines 23-25. Support for adding a metal deactivator can be found on page 18, line 6.

Claims 26-33, 36-40, 55-61 stand rejected, while claims 34, 35, 53 and 54 are objected to. The Examiner indicated the allowability of claims 34, 35, 53 and 54 if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and their dependent claims.

Claim 34 called for not solid stating the polyester particles before drying. This feature has been incorporated into independent claim 26. Applicants respectfully request a withdrawal of the rejection of claims 26-33, 36-40 and 55-61 under 35 USC §103 over Fujimori et al. USP 6,200,659 and JP *567 in view of the claim amendments.

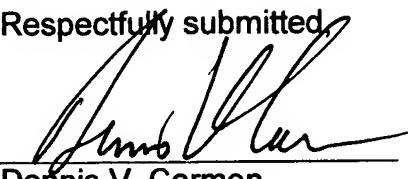
Independent claim 62 has been added, and is directed also to a process for making a molded part by feeding polyester particles to extrusion zone, wherein the polyester polymer particles are obtained from underwater pelletizers and have a degree of crystallinity of at least 15%, an It.V. of at least 0.70, an acetaldehyde level of 10 ppm or less, and the recited It.V. gradient, the polymer obtained by reacting at least ethylene glycol with terephthalic acid. Support for this latter feature can be found on page 11, lines 4-6. This claim recites the feature of low acetaldehyde levels as found in objected dependent claim 35.

Newly added independent claim 83 calls for polyester particles having an AA level of less than 10 ppm introduced into an extrusion zone. This feature can be found in claim 35, directed to the particles having an acetaldehyde level of 10 ppm or less prior to melting in the extrusion zone. While newly added claim 83 is not limited to not solid state polymerizing found in claim 34, it is submitted that feeding spherical polyester particles obtained from underwater pelletizers, to an extrusion zone where those particles have an AA level of 10 ppm or less is not disclosed or suggested by Fujimori or JP'567.

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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions related to the further prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

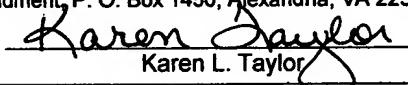

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Karen L. Taylor

11/10/2006
Date